



Memorandum

TO: PLANNING COMMISSION**FROM:** Stephen M. Haase**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW**DATE:** May 24, 2004**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** 3

SUBJECT: ST04-001. STREET NAMING FOR A NEW LOCAL STREET (NEWHALL DRIVE) TO BE LOCATED BETWEEN COLEMAN AVENUE AND NEWHALL STREET

RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval of the proposed new street name (Newhall Drive) to the City Council.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Transportation is requesting to name a new local street, Newhall Drive, which is under construction as part of the Interstate 880/Coleman Interchange Project. This new local street will connect Coleman Avenue and Newhall Street and will serve as the new access to Coleman Avenue upon the elimination of the current Newhall Street/Coleman Avenue intersection. The existing intersection is no longer feasible as a result of the new Interstate 880/Coleman Interchange.

ANALYSIS

The naming of this street has been reviewed for consistency with the attached City of San Jose Council Policy 6-5; *Street Naming and Street Name Change*. The criteria applicable to the naming of this public street are as follows:

- A. *The names must meet with the approval of the County Communications Department and the US Post Office.*

The County Communications Department has reviewed and approved the proposed new name. The U.S. Postal Service response will be provided to the Commission under separate cover. We anticipate that the Postal Service will support the proposed name.

- B. A public street continuing for some length in one general alignment shall have only one name.*

As stated above, the affected segment of Newhall Street will be severed from its current connection to Coleman Avenue. The new named street will provide for a new connection from Newhall Street to Coleman Avenue for the existing business and residential neighborhood. The proposed new street does not continue with the same alignment of the existing Newhall Street and therefore is preferable to carry a unique name for this street segment.

- C. Individual property owners, when affected by a name change, are to be informed and be given an opportunity to be heard through the Public Hearing process.*

As described below, the VTA and City Department of Transportation staff have held three separate community meetings to address the construction of the new local street and the naming of such street. Business owners and residents of the Newhall Community were adequately noticed of the proposed project prior to the Public Hearing.

Based on the above analysis, staff concludes that the proposed street name conforms to the intent of City Council Policy 6-5.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Since April 2003, the VTA and the San Jose Department of Transportation Staff have conducted three community meetings to discuss the Interstate 880/Coleman Interchange project with the Newhall Community (bounded by I-880, Coleman Avenue, Newhall Street, and the Rail Road right-of-way). Meeting notices were mailed to and dropped at the door of approximately 33 businesses, residents and property owners within the immediate Newhall neighborhood.

Members of the community were encouraged to submit names to be considered for the new street that will provide access to the neighborhood after the severing of Newhall Street at Coleman Avenue. No specific names were submitted, but at the April meeting a member of the community suggested that the name include the word "Newhall." At the following meeting in October 2003, several members of the community supported the previous suggestion that the new street name include the word "Newhall." At the last community meeting, on March 25, 2004, the community overwhelmingly requested that the new street be named Newhall. They had no preference regarding Drive, Way, Lane, Avenue, etc. The business owners in the area indicated that some use of "Newhall" in the new street name would be crucial in maintaining their current customer base.

COORDINATION

This street renaming was coordinated with County Communications and the U.S. Post Office. The County Communications Department support the proposed naming to Newhall Drive and raised no opposition to the new name. The U.S. Postal Service response is still pending and will be addressed prior to approval of the proposed project.

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CEQA

This project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA.

Stephen M. Haase, AICP, Director
Planning, Building and Code Enforcement

ATTACHMENT

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